

City of Cambridge Police Department

TELEPHONE (617) 349-3300

WEB www.cambridgepolice.org

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Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Cambridge Asks Residents & Business to Prepare for Hurricane Irene

August 26, 2011 – The City of Cambridge is taking various steps to prepare for Hurricane Irene which is predicted to affect the greater Boston area this weekend.

All City agencies and departments are working together to ensure the storm's impact is minimized as much as possible and the recovery after the storm is quick, safe and efficient.

It is unlikely that evacuations will be required; however, the city will have two emergency shelters ready if needed. The two facilities will be the Peabody School, located at 70 Rindge Ave., and the King Open School, located at 850 Cambridge Street. These facilities will be open and ready to accept residents starting at 8:00 p.m. Saturday evening. Anyone requiring transportation to these facilities should call 617-349-4800 after 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Residents and businesses who have sustained lower level or basement flooding in the past are encouraged to take preemptive measures to reduce damage as the City is unable to pump out basements of private residences and businesses.

Residents and business are also encouraged to secure outdoor furniture and equipment that may become dangerous with the heavy winds that are expected. Please do not use candles in the event of a power failure. Instead, make sure to have flashlights and batteries on hand.

For weather related updates, please tune into local stations. For Cambridge updates and storm preparation tips, visit the City's website, www.CambridgeMA.gov. In the event of downed wires and/or power lines, do not go near them as they may be dangerous. Keep away and call 9-1-1 immediately.

Free garage parking is available to residents from Saturday, 8 p.m. through Monday 8 a.m. at 260 Green St., 59 First St., Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place and Harvard garage at 52 Oxford St.

Helpful Numbers:

Public Works (617-349-4800) for transportation to shelters, street flooding, downed trees. **Inspectional Services** (617-349-6100) for housing related questions and concerns. **Police Non-Emergency** (617-349-3300) for general questions and concerns. **NSTAR** (1-800-592-2000) for power outages.

Residents and business are encouraged to sign up for the new Cambridge Alert Network, www.CambridgeMA.gov/AlertNetwork, to receive important notifications from the City via email, text message or phone calls.

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